

First Baptist Church

Volume LI

BRIDGE CITY, TX 77611

November 14, 2017

No. 46



The Bridge Builder

*Let us come
before him with
thanksgiving.*

Psalm 95:2, NIV

PASTOR'S PARAGRAPH . . .

Dear Church Family,
Sunday was a beautiful day together in worship and fellowship at FBC Bridge City. Our morning service was filled with glorious Christ exalting music, a time to pray for our sister church FBC Sutherland Springs, a reminder from God's Word that we all are to active in serving and exalting Christ with our spiritual gifts, and an opportunity to visit, share, and eat together at our Harvest meal. Thank you all who were a part of making the day special by serving faithfully.

We continue our sermon series, "All in the Family", this Sunday by looking at 1 Corinthians 13. It is a chapter often referred to as the "love chapter." Paul is writing of a "more excellent way" to express one's spiritual gifts. The Corinthians had abused and misapplied their gifts meant to exalt Christ and cheapened them by exalting self. Paul in a dramatic fashion is challenging the Corinthians to make love the motivation, the fuel, for everything they do including the expression of spiritual gifts. His purpose is not to give them a definition of what love is, but to humble them by demonstrating how God has loved them and how they are now to do likewise for others. The failure to live out this kind of "love" is evident for them and for us.

Where the Corinthians had cheapened spiritual gifts (we also), we all the more cheapen love. You see portions of Chapter 13 on t-shirts, wall decorations, used in wedding vows, etc. We read the list while patting ourselves on the back failing to see it in context and read it with its purpose in mind. If we see failure in it, we quickly point to a person who is supposed to love us this way. What we are supposed to see is Christ's fulfillment of every requirement and our inability to do likewise. We cannot love at this level. It is not possible for us. This is why Paul in chapter 14 encourages the reader to "pursue love" because we will never obtain it. To begin to love in this manner means to give up self and live exalting Christ (the one who loves this way). Our flesh will fail, but when we plug in spiritually through our gifts which are meant to exalt Christ we are empowered by the Spirit to love as never before. Love of self or love of Christ? We all love. The question is who.

FBCBC is where the "impossible" is a living reality everyday and Christ is who we seek to exalt. Invite someone to be a part of what God is doing at FBCBC.

Your Pastor,

Douglas Shows
1 Corinthians 13:13

CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR

Sunday we spoke in Children's Church about having an "Attitude of Gratitude". God wants our hearts to be cheerful, and one way to insure that is to count our blessings! I showed the kids a picture of something that some had never seen... a pocket watch! I explained to them, that unlike today's watches, pocket watches did not run on batteries, but had to be wound regularly to keep them moving in good time! If they were not wound up on a regular basis, they would begin to fall behind, and eventually stop working. Our spiritual life is the same way, if we do not keep ourselves wound up by counting the blessings that God has given us, but instead grumble and complain about everything, we begin to slow down and stumble in our walk with Christ. Keep winding that spiritual watch by counting your blessings daily, and going through your life with an attitude of gratitude!

Practice is going great on Sunday's and Wednesdays. There is still room for more kids in the program, so be sure to invite everyone you can! We are also looking for adults to help with the kids (and maybe with props during the program) and youth who would be willing to be a part of the fun as well! If you are interested, please let me know! Remember, practices are Sunday afternoons at 4:30 p.m. (same time as the adults) and Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. A snack will be provided for the kids.

Please be in prayer for all the upcoming events and the ministries at work in our church!

That the next generation may know,
Chris

Thank You

Albert and I would like to send our thanks again to all of you for your continued blessings you send to us, may the Lord always be with you and His blessings continue to fill your lives. Thank you all again for sharing those blessings with us, we hope to see you all again real soon. Bless you for being there for for us during such a bad time, God always comes through, even in the worst of times. Praise the Lord for brothers and sisters like you all, Amen . . .
Forever grateful,

Shanna Chatlosh and Albert Borel

YOUTH NEWS . . .

Thankfulness is foundational to the Christian life. Thankfulness is a conscious response that comes from looking beyond our blessings to their source. As Christians, we have been forgiven, saved from death, and adopted as God's children. There could be no better reason for a grateful heart! Lepers in Jesus' day were social outcasts. Their highly contagious condition ostracized them from those they loved. When ten lepers encountered Jesus, they desperately implored Him to show them mercy. Jesus sent them to the priest. As they obeyed, they were healed! These ten men had been forbidden to enter their own villages, to live in their own homes, to work in their own jobs, or even to touch their own children. Imagine what unrestrained joy must have filled them as they ran back home again! One of the lepers, a Samaritan, stopped and ran back to thank Jesus. Samaritans were normally shunned by the Jews, but Jesus had healed him! Jesus asked him, "Where are the others?" Ten lepers had been healed. Ten lepers were reveling in their newfound health. Ten men were joyfully rushing to share the good news with those they loved. But only one considered the Source of that blessing and stopped to thank and worship the One who had given him back his life. We, too, have been healed and made whole by the Savior. We are free to enjoy the abundant life the Savior has graciously given us. Could we, like the nine lepers, rush off so quickly to glory in our blessings without stopping to thank our Redeemer? God looks for our thanks. This Thanksgiving season make sure that your worship, prayers, service, and daily life are saturated with thanksgiving to God

Be Intentional

Aaron

WORSHIP DIRECTOR

"What a beautiful name it is
Nothing compares to this
What a beautiful name it is
The name of Jesus"

This is one of the powerful praise and worship songs we will be singing this coming Sunday and at our Christmas Night of Worship on December 10, 2017.

The choir met again yesterday to work on our presentations for this special night. This group of dedicated singers truly bless my heart and I know that you will be blessed when you hear them sing. The choir will also be leading the congregation with songs such as Silent Night and There's Something About That Name.

Please continue to pray for our choir and for all of the singers and musicians who are working on their presentations. It promises to be a very special evening with the Holy Spirit in control. I hope you are making plans to attend and that you plan to bring someone with you. You never know when someone's heart may be touched and encouraged to follow Jesus when they hear the Word through music.

Also, please keep our praise team and praise band in your prayers. They work very hard on Sunday and Wednesday evenings practicing for worship services and learning new music. They also practice on their own throughout the week. They are very dedicated to the ministry God has called them to.

Thank you to Buddy Moss for his message in song yesterday. I loved the powerful lyrics:

"Before we came along
And after we are all gone
God's Word will stand."

[Isaiah 40:8](#) ⁸The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever."

For His glory,
Debbie Anderson



**COMING IN
JANUARY . . .**

**Quilts for
Buckner Children**

QUILTING GROUP

**Interested persons
Contact Imogene Ernst
409-313-6468**

Christmas Night of Worship

Dress Rehearsal for choir
Friday, December 8, 2017
7:00 P.M.

NURSERY WORKERS November 19, 2017

Sunday School **Brittany Ernst**
 Connie Claus

Worship Service **Thelma Wheelis**

Volunteers always needed. Please call
Brittany Ernst at 409.313.1215.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

Sunday, November 19, 2017

9:15 Sunday School
10:30 Worship Service
 Children's Church
 for 4 yr. old — 2nd grade
 NO PM Activities

Tuesday, November 21, 2017

10:00 Ladies Prayer Meeting

Wednesday, November 22, 2017

6:30 NO PM Services

LOOK AT THE RECORDS	
November 12, 2017	
Average Weekly Needs	\$ 9,927.13
Sunday Receipts	\$11,205.07
Y-T-D Avg. Weekly Receipts	\$ 10,254.81
Digital Sign Goal	\$20,000.00
Digital Sign Receipts to date	\$3,965.00
ATTENDANCE:	
Sunday School	114
WORSHIP SERVICE:	
Worship	144
Nursery	5
TOTAL WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	149

First Baptist Church

200 W. ROUNDBUNCH RD.
BRIDGE CITY, TX 77611
(409)735-3581

Website: www.fbcbc.org

Doug Shows Pastor
Aaron Little Minister to Students
John Woods Minister to Senior Adults
Chris Bailey Director of Children's Ministry
Debbie Anderson Worship Director

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
8:00 — 4:30
MONDAY — FRIDAY

THE BRIDGE BUILDER (USPS 551-260) is published weekly except Christmas week. First Baptist Church, 200 W. Roundbunch Road, Bridge City, Texas 77611. Periodical Postage paid at Bridge City, Texas 77611. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the above.